

REMARKS

The C:N ratio is a weight ratio, and the claims have been amended to so state, as requested by the Examiner. Claims 2 and 12 have been amended in order to ensure that there is a difference in scope between these claims and the claims on which they are dependent. In light of these amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the objection and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 can now be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Farrow. In light of the amendment to recited that the method is for producing astaxanthin in accordance with the bottom of page 2, it is respectfully submitted this rejection can be withdrawn. Farrow teaches a method of producing lutein and does not teach or suggest a method of making astaxanthin.

The rejection of all claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Ip et al is respectfully traversed. As established by the Declaration submitted herewith, this paper, published in the same year as this application, is by the applicant and his post-graduate students and discloses the invention solely of the applicant.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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